

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11  
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00  
OMB-01 SS-15 L-03 STR-07 NSC-05 /127 R

DRAFTED BY EA/EP:AALBRECHT:SRP

APPROVED BY EA:EHEGINBOTHAM

EA/K:RRICH/BPORTER

EUR/RPE:PMCLEAN

EB:RHORMATS

-----063368 082226Z /64

R 080449Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 172781

USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON

SUBJECT: KOREA'S INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

REFS: A) SEOUL 5266; B) PARIS 19842

1. WE ARE PLEASED THAT ROKG LIBERAL TRADERS RECOGNIZE  
THAT OECD MEMBERSHIP WILL COME NEITHER QUICKLY NOR EASILY.  
WE ALSO AGREE THAT THE US SHOULD GIVE A POSITIVE SIGNAL  
TO THEM TO HELP NEUTRALIZE CONSERVATIVES.

2. WE TRUST CONCERN OVER NICS PAPER AND ALLEGED OECD  
PROTECTIONISM HAS BEEN ALLAYED. IN DISCUSSION WITH DPM  
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NAM WEEK OF JUNE 19 WE POINTED OUT THAT OECD PAPER WAS NOT  
ANTI-NIC AND THAT IN FACT, OECD MINISTERIAL RENEWAL OF  
TRADE PLEDGE AND STATEMENT FAVORING POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT  
POLICIES WERE STRONG ANTI-PROTECTIONIST MOVES. WE PROVIDED  
KOREAN EMBASSY HERE WITH COPY OF OECD MINISTERIAL  
COMMUNIQUE. SEE REF. B.

3. NAM INDICATED DESIRE FOR GREATER INFORMATION ABOUT WORK DONE WITHIN OECD. WE EXPLAINED THAT MOST OECD WORK WAS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND SUGGESTED THAT KOREAN EMBASSY IN PARIS COULD OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON OECD ACTIVITIES FROM SECGEN VAN LENNEP AND OTHER OECD

SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS AND FROM USOECD. FYI: WE BELIEVE A POLICY OF "OPENNESS" ABOUT OECD ACTIVITIES ON THE PART OF SECRETARIAT AND MEMBER STATES WILL HELP DISPEL KOREAN FEARS THAT OECD IS RICH MAN'S CLUB MAKING SECRET DECISIONS AFFECTING THEIR INTERESTS. MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT OECD WORK WILL ALSO HELP KOREANS DECIDE WHICH, IF ANY, OECD ACTIVITIES (E.G. STEEL) MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO THEM IN THE INTERIM WHILE QUESTION OF EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IS BEING CONSIDERED. END FYI.

4. FINALLY, WE WELCOME AND SUPPORT THE EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION FOR CLOSER US-KOREAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER WE COULD SEND POSITIVE SUPPORTIVE SIGNALS TO THE ROK BY EXPLORING THE FEASIBILITY OF CONSULTATIONS ON PRIORITY ISSUES ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS AT A VARIETY OF LEVELS, PRAGMATICALLY IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSULT AT LEVELS RANGING FROM DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY, TO UNDER-SECRETARY DEPENDING ON TRAVEL PLANS, AVAILABILITIES, ETC. WE BELIEVE WE WOULD BE FAR MORE CONSTRAINED IN CONSULTA-  
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TIONS IF WE WERE TO TRY TO FORMALLY ESTABLISH A VERY HIGH LEVEL AND REGULARLY SCHEDULED FORMAT. DAS HEGINBOTHAM HAD PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED TO KIM JAE-IK THE DESIRABILITY OF US-KOREA CONSULTATIONS, ON LONG-TERM TRADE PLANS AND POTENTIAL AREAS OF CONFLICT FACING BOTH US KOREAN RELATIONS AND OUR PACIFIC BASIN TRADE RELATIONS GENERALLY. KIM AND HEGINBOTHAM HAD AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN WASHINGTON WHEN KIM RETURNS TO SERVE ON AN IBRD PANEL IN MID-JULY. IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS KIM AND APPROPRIATE INTERLOCUTOR AND HIS VISIT IN JULY A FITTING OPPORTUNITY, HEGINBOTHAM MIGHT EXPLORE WITH KIM HIS THOUGHTS ON HOW WE MIGHT STRUCTURE CONSULTATIONS WHICH WOULD SATISFY NEED IDENTIFIED IN REFTEL A. IF YOU DEEM ADVISABLE, EMBASSY MIGHT DISCUSS THIS APPROACH WITH KIM AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC PROGRAMS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** KOREA'S INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY  
**TAGS:** ECON, KS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014